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URGENT TIME SENSITIVE REGULATORY INFORMATION

Dear Provider,

Since 1994 the Nevada State Immunization Program has provided vaccines for children regardless of insurance status. Today, faced with declining federal funds, increased cost of vaccines, a growing population, and one of the few states to continue to provide vaccines for all children, we must make a critical decision. **As of January 1, 2009** the Nevada State Immunization program will no longer provide all of the recommended vaccines for all children in the state.

The Nevada State Immunization Program **will continue** to provide vaccines for all of the children who are eligible for the "Vaccines for Children (VFC)" program and the "Nevada Check Up" children. Children qualify to receive VFC Vaccines by being Medicaid eligible, American Indian or Alaska Native, uninsured or underinsured. The "Nevada Check Up" children will also continue to be eligible to receive all of the state supplied vaccines.

Many health insurance plans cover vaccines; however, there are many variations from one health plan to another. If your patient's insurance does not cover vaccines they are considered <u>underinsured</u> and may be eligible to receive free vaccines through the federal Vaccines for Children program at a Federally Qualified Health Center.

The Nevada State Health Division deeply regrets that we can no longer provide all of the vaccines for all of the children in the state. The following vaccines will no longer be provided universally to all children:

DTaP HIB Td e-IPV Tdap HepB MMR

Staff at the Health Division appreciates your dedication in the past and it is our hope that you will continue to vaccinate children in your practice as it is the best way to avoid vaccine preventable diseases.

More information about immunizations is available at the following websites: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ Nevada State Health Division http://health.nv.gov or on WebIZ. You may also contact the immunization program at 775-684-5900 for questions.

Sincerely,

Maria D. Canfield Bureau Chief